

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A thin plate storage container comprising:

a container main body defining an interior for containing and supporting which contains and supports a plurality of thin plates, said container main body having a flange defining an opening for insertion and removal of the thin plates;

a cover member extending in a lateral direction across and closing the opening of which closes the container main body to keep the, and which keeps an interior of the container main body clean, said cover member having; and

——a double-seal mechanism for sealing on the cover member that seals the interior of the said container main body, wherein

——the double-seal mechanism comprising comprises:

an annular inner seal piece attached to a peripheral edge of the cover member, abutting against the container main body, and thereby sealing the interior of the container main body, the inner seal piece comprising a support portion fixed to the cover member and defining the inner peripheral edge of the annular inner seal piece, a connecting portion integral with and freely extending laterally outward from the support portion, and a rounded distal end portion of a diameter greater than the thickness of the connecting portion, integral with the connecting portion and defining a peripheral edge of the inner seal piece;

an outer seal piece attached to an ~~outside of the inner seal piece on the~~ peripheral edge of the cover member outward of the inner seal piece relative to the interior of the container main body, abutting against the container main body, and thereby sealing an abutment portion between the inner seal piece and the container main body;

an inner peripheral lip portion of said cover member that serves as a seal pressing portion, that abuts against and presses the inner seal piece against an annular seal reception inner step that is formed in said flange opposed to the seal pressing portion,when the cover member is attached to the container main body.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The thin plate storage container according to claim 1, wherein the double-seal mechanism further comprises:

~~—— a bulge section is formed over an entire periphery of an outer end portion of the inner seal piece of the double seal mechanism in the normal direction, and~~

a fitting groove, into which the rounded end portion of annular inner seal piece ~~bulge section~~ is fitted, is formed in the annular seal reception inner step of the flanges section of the container main body.

4. (Currently Amended) A thin plate storage container comprising:

a container main body defining an interior for containing and supporting~~which contains and supports~~ a plurality of thin plates, said container body having a flange defining an opening for insertion and removal of the thin plates;

a cover member extending laterally across and closing the opening of ~~which closes the container main body to keep the,~~ and ~~which keeps an interior of the~~ container main body clean, said cover member having; and

~~—— cover member fixing means, provided at the cover member, for fixing the cover member to the container main body, wherein~~

——the cover member fixing means comprises:

a latch shaft mounted in linearly projected from and retracted toward the cover member for linear, reciprocating motion between an extended position where the cover is locked to the container and a retracted position wherein the cover member is unlocked from the container main body; and

a latch roller rotatably attached to a distal tip end of the latch shaft, and

a cover member retracting surface ~~is provided on the container main body, the cover member retracting surface being formed to be inclined to be open outward and toward the latch roller, abutting against the latch roller, whereby by extension of the latch shaft forces, and retracting the cover member in toward the container main body while rotating.~~

5. (Currently Amended) A thin plate storage container comprising:

a container main body defining an interior for containing and supporting which contains and supports a plurality of thin plates, said container having a flange defining an opening for insertion and removal of the thin plates;

a cover member extending in a lateral direction across and closing the opening of which closes the container main body to keep the, and which keeps an interior of the container main body clean, said cover member having; and

——cover member fixing means, ~~provided at the cover member, for fixing the cover member to the container main body, wherein~~

the cover member fixing means comprises: ~~is comprised of~~

a rotatable crank mechanism fixed to said cover member for projecting and retracting an engagement piece between an engaged position wherein the cover

member is locked from and toward the cover member when rotating, to the container main body and a retracted position wherein the cover member is unlocked from the container main body, wherein-

——the crank mechanism comprises:

a rotary plate directly engaged with the engagement piece for the and rotating, thereby projecting and retracting of the engagement piece upon rotation of the rotary plate; and

a support piece supporting rotation of the rotary plate wherein; and

——the support piece comprises:

a pin reception sections ~~section~~ individually receiving and elastically holding fitting and supporting a plurality of engagement pins provided on the rotary plate while extending the engagement piece from the cover member; and

an elastic support sections ~~section~~ elastically biasing the supporting the plurality of pin reception sections into engagement with the plurality of engagement pins, thereby holding the rotary plate, ~~and adjusting the rotary plate to be located at a set angle of rotation at a set position.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The thin plate storage container according to claim 1, further having:

a small hole provided in the container main body;

a filter which permits passage ~~pass~~ of only the air between and inside and an outside of the container main body, and which removes a contaminant; and

a cover provided outside of the filter.

7. (Currently Amended) The thin plate storage container according to claim 1 further comprising; ~~wherein~~

~~at an uppermost position of a thin plate support sections~~ section comprising comb's teeth and mounted within the container main body for that support, at intervals, of the plurality of thin plates within ~~contained~~ in the container main body ~~at certain intervals, respectively, a comb's tooth for supporting another thin plate is provided.~~

8. (New) The thin plate storage container according to claim 1 wherein the outer seal piece extends laterally outward, from a base end seated within the cover member, in parallel with and spaced from the connecting portion of the inner seal piece.